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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/316,387	05/21/99	SOLOMON	A 044137-5025

009629
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WASHINGTON DC 20036-5869

HM12/1004

EXAMINER

TURNER, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1647

DATE MAILED:

13
10/04/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/316,387

Applicant(s)

Solomon et al.

Examiner

Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D.

Art Unit

1647



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7-18-01.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-45 and 10-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 10-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 23-45 and 10-22 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

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Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1-9 are canceled. New claims ~~10~~-45 *are pending*.
2. Applicants amendments to the claims have necessitated further restriction as set forth herein. In particular it is noted that the claims now recite multiple sub-generic groups of immunoglobulin molecules which are additionally limited by their immunoreactivity.

Improper Markush

3. Prior to setting forth the restriction requirement, it is pointed out that applicants have presented instant claims in improper Markush format, see Ex parte Markush, 1925 C.D. 126, In re Weber, 198 USPQ 334 and MPEP 803.02 and 806.04. The claims are improperly set forth because the claims define multiple sub-generic families of immunoglobulins which as identified and claimed, fail to share the characteristics of a proper genus, i.e., a common utility and a substantial structural feature essential to the disclosed utility. Alternatively, the claims define multiple structurally distinct sub-generic families of immunoglobulins which are capable of different immunoreactivity and thus different use, modes of operation, function and effect, even though the immunoglobulins may be similarly administered as disclosed. A reference against one of the families of claimed immunoglobulins would not necessarily be a reference against the other. Therefore, the restriction will be set forth for each of the various groups, irrespective of the improper format of the claims, because the claims define inventions which are not proper species. The search of the multiple families of immunoglobulins in a single application as now claimed would present an undue burden on the examiner.

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Election/Restriction

4. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 23-45 are drawn to methods including the administration of an antibody or fragment thereof, classified for example in class 424, subclass 130.1.

5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

a.) Structural species including monoclonal antibodies, Fv fragments, Fab fragments, F(ab'') fragments, F(ab')₂ fragments, SvFv fragments, and single chain antibodies

b.) Functional species including immunoglobulins reactive to immunoglobulin light chains, with cross isotype reactivity, non-light chain amyloid, Alzheimer's A β protein and cross reactivity as encompassed in particular by claim 43..

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single structural disclosed species as designated in (a.) and a single functional species as designated in (b.) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 23-25 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

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Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

6. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this general application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600, Group 1640 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Should applicant wish to FAX a response, the current FAX number for Group 1600 is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-0056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz, can be reached at (703) 308-4623.

Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D.
October 3, 2001

**CHRISTINE J. SAOUD
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Christine J. Saoud